



## Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Gateway 2015-2016 Scale-Up Program

**Overview:** Funding will assist Iowa educators in implementing Project Lead The Way's Gateway program by providing tuition for Design and Modeling (DM) and Automation and Robotics (AR) Core Training for educators and five VEX PLTW Gateway Robotics Kits.

**Grade Levels:** 6-8

### Program Summary

**Project Lead The Way** (PLTW) is a nonprofit organization and the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM curricular programs. PLTW's world-class, activity-, project-, and problem-based curriculum and high-quality teacher professional development model, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills needed to succeed in our global economy. PLTW's rigorous and relevant curriculum is collaboratively developed and consistently reviewed and improved by PLTW staff, teachers, university educators, industry experts, and school administrators. It leverages an innovative, project-based approach, fostering collaboration and building critical thinking skills.

### What does the project provide?

This project will provide educator training (one educator per session) for the two foundation units of **PLTW Gateway**: Design and Modeling (DM) and Automation and Robotics (AR). Applicants may send one educator to both Core Training sessions (DM and AR); or two educators, one to DM Core Training, and another to AR Core Training. This project will provide selected applicants with five VEX PLTW Gateway Robotics Kits for the AR unit. These kits, representing more than two-thirds of one-time equipment costs, will allow educators to adequately outfit one lab with the robotics equipment needed for up to 25 students (one kit for every five students) per class period. These kits will be shipped directly to each selected applicant, who will also receive a specific PLTW purchasing manual, containing a detailed outline of all one-time and consumable equipment and supplies (including estimated costs, quantities, and potential vendors) for both of the PLTW Gateway foundation units.

### What is required by the applicant in order to implement this program?

- Review the **PLTW Register Now** webpage and understand the **PLTW Gateway Program Requirements**.
- If not already registered, the applicant must register through the PLTW online registration process. Select a District Administrator and School Administrator (for each school) to serve as the main points of contact with PLTW and be responsible for providing and maintaining accurate data and information. Upon registration, the District Administrator will receive an email with a link to the **PLTW Agreement**. Registration does not commit the school district or school to implement PLTW.
- Review the PLTW agreement with the school board, superintendent, and legal department to ensure all parties are aware of district and school responsibilities. After obtaining the authorized signatures, email the agreement to the PLTW School Support Team.
- Execute an Applicant Agreement with PLTW as a part of Scale-Up Award before attending Core Training.
- Select an educator(s) to instruct the PLTW Gateway foundation units: Design and Modeling (DM) and Automation and Robotics (AR). Educators should be excited to teach a project-based curriculum and meet the requirements of the PLTW agreement. Once selected, the School Administrator will register each educator in the PLTW database.
- Register for Core Training at the Iowa State University College of Engineering. Once the educators are added to the PLTW database, they can register for DM and AR Core Training sessions (one-week per PLTW Gateway unit). Educators must successfully complete all online PLTW Gateway Readiness Training modules prior to attending Core Training. Educators must successfully pass Core Training for every PLTW Gateway unit they wish to instruct.
- Purchase necessary equipment and supplies. Review the provided PLTW Gateway DM and AR purchasing manual and order the necessary items for the units. Start ordering process early to ensure lab is fully equipped on time.

**Website to View Program and Standards Alignment:** <http://alignment.pltw.org/site/index>

**Program Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQq6Fu8VK3A&list=PLCCTPHuIP75L4OB5bdEiFmryWewqxbXRT&index=3>